

Washington State Department of Agriculture

Hearing Notice

For immediate release: Oct. 18, 2002 (02-55) Contact: Joel Kangiser (360) 902-2013 Mike Louisell (360) 902-1813 WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, Washington 98504-2560

Diagrams for customers an issue in WSDA structural pest inspection regulations

OLYMPIA – Providing homeowners a diagram of damage caused by carpenter ants, dry rot and other wood destroying organisms will be discussed under structural pest inspection rules proposed by the state Department of Agriculture (WSDA). The diagram issue was contentious during a hearing held in August and prompted WSDA to schedule another hearing Oct. 29.

The hearing, which begins at 6 p.m., will be held simultaneously through a satellite link provided by the Department of Information Services. They are scheduled at the following locations:

Lacey: 710 Sleater Kinney Road SE, Suite Q

• Renton: 1107 SW Grady Way, Suite 112

• Vancouver: 2500 NE 65th Ave.

• Spokane: 1101 N. Argonne, Suite 109

Kennewick: 8851 W Gage Blvd., Suite H

Current law requires inspections to include a diagram showing areas of damage, infestations, or conditions conducive to potential infestation. The new proposal would mandate a copy of the diagram be provided when requested by a customer. Computer generated or scaled diagrams are not required, but it must reasonably resemble the footprint of the building and be marked so that the inspector's findings can be located by others.

WSDA staff worked with an advisory group of home inspectors and pest control operators to develop proposals that better define the purpose of rules related to wood destroying organisms, expand and clarify rule definitions, and describe information to be included in a written report and diagram.

For a copy of the proposed rules, call Laurie Mauerman at (360) 902-2012. Send written comments to: Washington State Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Management Division, P.O. Box 42589, Olympia, WA 98504-2589. Comments may also be sent by FAX to (360) 902-2093, or e-mail Laurie Mauerman at lmauerman@agr.wa.gov. Comments must be received by Oct. 30.